

markings. The set in question was found at Milford Mills, Chester County, Pa., on May 17, 1894, at which time the nest contained two eggs. Being obliged to leave the locality on the following day, I had Mr. Frank Powell forward me the nest and eggs as soon as the set was complete. On close inspection there is seen a faint suggestion of a few small spots on the larger end of one of the eggs, but this is not noticeable on casual examination. The eggs are somewhat shorter than the ordinary type, but the transverse diameter is greater, thus giving them more of a rounded appearance. Their color, aside from the absence of spots, is normal. There was nothing unusual about the nest, it being composed of dried grass and lined with horse hair. It was built in the forks of a limb of an apple tree in an orchard. — WILLARD L. MARIS, *Newtown, Pa.*

Junco hyemalis shufeldti in Lower California. — In looking over a small series of Juncos taken the past spring between Tia Juana and San Fernando, Lower California, I was somewhat surprised to find one specimen that was easily referable to *shufeldti*. Upon turning to my note-book I find that the bird in question was taken on March 29, in the Carriso Valley, about six miles east of Tia Juana and two or three miles south of the United States boundary line. It was a fine male and the only Junco noted in several days' collecting at that point. With the exception of *J. h. townsendi* which, so far as my observations go, is confined to the immediate region of San Pedro Martir, all of the other Juncos that I have examined from the northern part of the peninsula have proven to be typical *J. h. thurberi*. In January, 1894, I secured a single specimen of this race in a willow thicket at El Rosario, the most southern point that I have met with the genus. I found *thurberi* common in the Burro Cañon, a short distance north of Ensenada, in late April, and they may have been nesting though I have no positive evidence of their so doing, so near the sea level.

It is more than probable that Mr. Bryant's Guadalupe Island record of *J. oregonus* (Catalogue Birds of Lower California), refers to *thurberi*, that race not having been described at the time the list was published. — A. W. ANTHONY, *San Diego, Cala.*

Mortality among White-bellied Swallows in Florida. — During the almost unprecedented cold snap which prevailed throughout Florida in the first half of February, an exceedingly large number of White-bellied Swallows succumbed to the severity of the weather. These were either directly killed by the sudden fall in temperature or were overcome by the scarcity of insect food occasioned by the protracted cold. While I have no information as to the condition of affairs in other parts of the State, it seems reasonable to suppose that what was observed in this section obtained elsewhere.

On February 13, while driving along the stage route between Lake Worth and Biscayne Bay, numerous dead birds were noticed. At New

River, on the afternoon of the same day, when the cold was not especially severe, although it had been so the previous night, many Swallows while on the wing were seen to fall lifeless into the river. I learn that at Lemon City for several days the boys amused themselves by dropping their hats over benumbed or exhausted Swallows on the docks. On the morning of February 15, seven dead birds were taken from under the seat of a catboat where they had evidently sought shelter during the previous afternoon and had perished in the night. The same day I noticed many dead Swallows in the water and on the shores of Biscayne Bay adjacent to this place. At Cocoanut Grove, about ten miles further south, many birds were killed, over sixty dead Swallows being found one morning on the roof of a piazza. Persons who visited the ocean shore, which is a favorite resort for these birds, reported the beach as thickly bestrewn with dead Swallows. At the house of refuge, located on the coast opposite this place, over one hundred and fifty dead birds were counted one day.

An examination of the alimentary tracts of some of the birds showed an entire absence of food; and to this cause, rather than the direct influence of the cold, I am inclined to attribute the exceedingly great mortality which ensued.—HUGH M. SMITH, *Lemon City, Dade Co., Florida.*

The Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) and Tree Swallows (*Tachycineta bicolor*) Wintering in South Carolina.—I shot a male Rough-winged Swallow on the morning of December 22, 1894, which had been in the neighborhood for over a month, and which had roosted in a barn since November. I also shot two Tree Swallows on January 4, 1895. The weather was intensely cold between these dates, the thermometer registering as low as 8° above zero. It is not unusual to see hundreds of Tree Swallows on mild days in January and February, but it is certainly surprising to find them braving a temperature of 8° to 10° above zero. The Tree Swallows had their throats stuffed with myrtle berries, which they subsist upon in the fall and winter months.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

A Ground Nest of the Black-throated Green Warbler.—This Warbler is notoriously variable in its choice of a nesting site. The usual situation, of course, is the horizontal branch of a pine, hemlock or spruce, but I have seen nests built at or near the tops of tall specimens of these evergreens, in deciduous trees, such as birches and elms, and in barberry bushes in open pastures. It appears, however, that there is an even wider range of possibilities, for Mr. Clarence H. Watrous has just sent me a nest which he found—at Chester, Connecticut, June 18, 1894—*on the ground* “among a large clump of ferns in a very low and damp place under a heavy growth of hemlocks.” There is nothing peculiar about the composition or construction of this nest save that it